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## Bay Area Democrats to speak out, rally during Bush visit

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(05-01) 21:20 PDT SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) --

Bay Area Congressional Democrats will be speaking out on the state of the regional and national economy during President Bush's visit to Silicon Valley on Friday.

President Bush will tour the headquarters of United Defense Industries in Santa Clara Friday morning, after spending Thursday night on the USS Lincoln which was en route from Iraq to Southern California.

The president used his visit to the aircraft carrier to announce the end of major military conflict in Iraq.

Reps. Mike Honda and Zoe Lofgren, both of San Jose, will lead a rally of Silicon Valley community members in front of the San Jose Government Center to address what they call President Bush's "dismal" economic record.

Honda and Lofgren said that more than 80,000 jobs in Silicon Valley have been lost since President Bush took office in January, 2001.

The region's unemployment rate, at 8.5 percent, is among the nation's highest.

Also Friday, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco, has scheduled a conference call with reporters to respond to the Bush visit. She will be joined by Sen. John Corzine, D-New Jersey, who heads the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

California Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Marin, is running for re-election in 2004.

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